

Fisheries where he could continue his work on behalf of the farmer and conservation. He was known here as the "Farmer Congressman" by his colleagues and worked hard to ensure that the interests of Eastern farmers was carried equally as important as those of the Midwest.

During his tenure in the Congress, he worked to provide funds to the States for hunter education programs and to provide additional funds for wildlife restoration.

Upon his retirement from the Congress of the United States, he returned to Loganville and continued his work on the family farm and family orchards. I am pleased to introduce this legislation and have it come to the floor, and I ask that it would be passed.

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I rise in support of H.R. 5210, which names a postal facility after George Atlee Goodling, the father of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), who has served with such distinction, himself, in this House.

I suppose there is no greater occasion than when we have the opportunity to pay tribute to our fathers. I know it is with a great deal of pride and satisfaction that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) can stand today before this House and pay tribute to his father in this way.

Clearly, both Goodlings served with distinction in this House and served the people of Pennsylvania very, very well. So I take a great deal of pride and satisfaction personally in being able to be a part of joining in support of H.R. 5210, to name this postal facility after George Atlee Goodling.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OSE. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. OSE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5210.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1545

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 4635, DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill

(H.R. 4635) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California? The Chair hears none and, without objection, appoints the following conferees: Messrs. WALSH, DELAY, HOBSON, KNOLLENBERG, FRELINGHUYSEN, Mrs. NORTHUP, Messrs. SUNUNU, GOODE, YOUNG of Florida, MOLLOHAN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. CRAMER and Mr. OBEY.

There was no objection.

J.T. WEEKER SERVICE CENTER

Mr. OSE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5016) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 514 Express Center Drive in Chicago, Illinois, as the "J.T. Weeker Service Center," as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5016

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. J.T. WEEKER SERVICE CENTER.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 514 Express Center Road in Chicago, Illinois, and known as the Chicago International/Military Service Center, shall be known and designated as the "J.T. Weeker Service Center".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the J.T. Weeker Service Center.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. OSE) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. OSE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OSE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 5016, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. OSE. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 5016, Madam Speaker, names a postal facility after J.T. Weeker. The

legislation was introduced by my friend and committee colleague, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BLAGOJEVICH), on July 27 of this year.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) representing the great City of Chicago.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I could not let this moment go by without expressing some comments relative to John Thomas Weeker, J.T., as we all called him, especially those who knew him.

He was area vice president of operations for the United States Postal Service; and, unfortunately, he passed away at an early age. It was very interesting to me that as J.T. did his work in the Midwest area, how much he was revered by the individuals who worked with and for him.

As a matter of fact, I had the occasion to attend his funeral services, and he had asked that one of his employees give the eulogy. That was a fellow that he had supervised, Rufus Porter, who is the lead executive for the Chicago post office. It was also interesting that he had asked that the Chicago Postal Choir would perform at his services. Even though he was not from the Midwest, he was not from Chicago, he had grown up on the East Coast, he had adopted the area as his home and decided that that is where he wanted to have the last comments made for him.

It is also interesting that employees of the Postal Service made the request to have this facility named for their leader. It was Rufus Porter who was the first person who suggested that there ought to be some lasting way of remembering the tremendous service that J.T. had provided to the Postal Service, and especially to the Midwest region. And so, Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleagues in bestowing this honor upon a tremendous executive who gave not only of himself, in terms of providing leadership to postal operations, but who was an integral part of his community.

A little phrase he had about moving the mail that he sometimes would like to say, when talking about a letter, clean hands gentle touch; surely we owe a letter that much. And that is how J.T. felt about the work that he did in the Postal Service.

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to join the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BLAGOJEVICH) in urging the House to adopt this resolution naming this postal facility after an outstanding public servant who worked every day to be sure that the mail arrived on time.

All too often, I think, we fail to acknowledge the contributions that are made every day by the fine employees of our Federal Government. So, Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of H.R. 5016.